



**USGS geologist**  
**Margaret Hiza Redsteer**



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*A Record of Change—Science and Elder Observations on the Navajo Nation* is a 25-minute documentary about combining observations from Navajo elders with conventional science to determine how tribal lands and culture are affected by climate change. On the Navajo Nation, there is a shortage of historical climate data, making it difficult to assess changing environmental conditions.

This video reveals how a team of scientists, anthropologists, and translators combined the rich local knowledge of Navajo elders with recent scientific investigation to effectively document environmental change. Increasing aridity and declining snowfall in this poorly monitored region of the Southwest are accompanied by declining river flow and migrating sand dunes. The observations of Navajo elders verify and supplement this record of change by informing how shifting weather patterns are reflected in Navajo cultural practices and living conditions.

Executive producers: Margaret Hiza Redsteer and Monique Fordham

Produced by Stephen M. Wessells

Written by Donna Matrazzo

Filmed and edited by Stephen M. Wessells and Haydon Lane

Narrator (English) Cissy Jones, Narrator (Navajo) Dee Yazzie

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Includes English and Navajo language versions in widescreen 2:35 anamorphic

Duration 25 minutes [Navajo language version, 28 minutes]



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Prepared in cooperation with the Navajo Nation

# *A Record of Change*

Science and Elder Observations on the Navajo Nation

By Margaret Hiza Redsteer and Stephen M. Wessells

General Information Product 181

**U.S. Department of Interior**  
**U.S. Geological Survey**